



MI-CW1809

# Michigan Crop Weather

May 4, 2009

## Wet Weather Continues

## Fruit

Two days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 3, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.28 inches in the western Upper Peninsula to 1.39 inches in the south central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 4 degrees above normal in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Rainfall continued to hinder field activities for the week. Fields were too wet for planting; standing water was seen in many fields. Limited planting and field preparation continued on lighter soils as the weather allowed.

## Field Crops

The rainy weather continued to hinder planting in the majority of the state, however field work progressed as weather permitted. Farmers were reporting that the rain was good for **alfalfa** growth; but there were reports of winter kill and weevil feeding. The abundance of moisture could result in rot in the root system or diseases. **Corn** and **soybean** planting have been limited. Farmers were hoping for warmer, drier temperatures to provide a window for planting. **Wheat** was progressing, top dressing was completed and some fields showed yellow in the southeast. **Oat** planting was underway, as weather permitted. Early seeded fields have emerged. However, some were giving up on planting oats this year. **Sugarbeet** planting neared completion in many areas.

A radiation freeze on the morning of April 23 caused freeze injury to most fruit crops in the southwest. Warm weather afterwards pushed crops to normal seasonal levels of development or beyond. Extremely wet conditions in some areas hampered planting and spraying. **Apples** ranged from green tip in the northwest to pink and open cluster in the southwest. **Peaches** were blooming in the southwest and were at calyx green in the west central. European **plums** were at tight cluster in the west central and at bud burst in the northwest. **Strawberries** were emerging across the southern part of the state. **Sweet cherries** ranged from early bud burst in the northwest to full bloom in the southwest. **Tart cherries** were at green tip in the northwest and were in early bloom in the southwest. **Pears** were at open cluster in the southwest and in bud burst in the west central. **Blueberries** were 1.25 inch green in the west central and bud burst in the southwest, where some winter injury to Bluecrop variety buds has been detected. **Grapes** were bud burst in the southwest; Chardonnay wine grapes were at early bud swell in the northwest.

## Vegetables

Continued wet weather across the central and southern regions put many of the normal field activities on hold. **Carrot** planting continued in the west central region where soils were dry enough. In the southwest, **onion** planting is essentially complete, while **celery** planting fell behind schedule due to excessive rains and wet fields. Celery planted earlier in the season is reported to be off to a good start. Early planted **cabbage** was getting established, and planting of **sweet corn** and **potatoes** continued.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/03/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	1	34	65
Subsoil	0	1	46	53

Crop condition for week ending 05/03/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Oats	2	2	27	50	19
Pasture	1	8	37	41	13
Winter Wheat	2	4	23	53	18

Crop progress for week ending 05/03/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley, planted	33	16	15	47
Barley, emerged	15	0	3	18
Corn, planted	5	3	37	38
Corn, emerged	0	0	1	2
Oats, planted	63	49	71	79
Oats, emerged	24	10	31	39
Potatoes, planted	11	11	30	28
Soybeans, planted	1	0	7	11
Sugarbeets, planted	88	81	94	93

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/03/09 <sup>1</sup>

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	63	28		81	74		0.28	2.33	2.67	2.75		
Marquette	63	25		67	59		0.28	2.33	2.68	2.76		
Stephenson	69	31		117	103		0.11	2.03	2.26	2.34		
Western UP	69	25	0	82	73	91	0.28	2.33	2.66	2.73	2.65	3.37
Cornell	71	28		100	82		0.17	2.15	2.54	2.54		
Sault St Marie	65	31		57	92		0.16	0.91	0.95	1.16		
Eastern UP	71	23	1	63	77	47	0.16	2.22	2.39	2.47	2.79	3.01
Beulah	71	36		131	184		0.31	2.18	2.65	2.89		
Lake City	71	30		127	169		0.78	2.54	2.88	3.29		
Old Mission	70	36		95	161		0.05	1.38	1.40	1.61		
Pellston	72	25		95	154		0.13	0.87	0.89	1.13		
Northwest	72	25	2	108	163	114	0.26	1.65	1.82	2.07	3.00	2.61
Alpena	77	29		102	163		0.24	1.89	2.00	2.94		
Houghton Lake	72	33		117	178		0.85	3.10	3.21	4.25		
Rogers City	74	33		105	144		0.45	2.24	2.33	3.44		
Northeast	77	29	2	109	167	103	0.53	2.39	2.50	3.53	2.92	2.76
Fremont	71	36		144	196		1.39	3.77	4.05	4.48		
Hart	69	38		127	180		0.87	3.39	3.52	3.68		
Muskegon	73	37		150	187		1.53	4.10	4.65	4.74		
West Central	73	36	2	142	192	139	1.07	3.16	3.46	3.66	3.43	2.67
Alma	76	40		144	198		1.41	5.28	5.95	6.95		
Big Rapids	76	38		154	223		1.24	3.23	3.26	4.22		
Central	76	38	2	145	208	155	1.21	4.04	4.31	5.10	3.43	2.79
Bad Axe	81	38		131	215		1.35	3.74	4.08	5.09		
Pigeon	80	38		121	205		1.25	3.44	3.47	4.48		
Saginaw	78	40		143	214		1.43	4.20	4.77	5.89		
Standish	77	34		130	188		0.96	3.10	3.33	4.28		
East Central	81	34	2	128	210	148	1.38	3.62	4.05	5.19	2.84	2.63
Fennville	74	36		161	210		1.43	3.65	4.40	5.14		
Grand Rapids	76	39		176	239		1.76	3.85	4.77	5.49		
Holland	75	43		173	249		1.66	4.73	5.86	6.80		
South Bend, IN	77	41		209	256		1.21	1.75	2.34	3.64		
Watervliet	76	40		172	228		1.46	3.15	4.06	5.00		
Southwest	77	36	2	178	240	176	1.33	3.33	4.19	5.09	3.64	3.01
Belding	75	40		144	212		1.40	4.34	4.71	5.35		
Coldwater	78	38		200	224		0.25	1.22	3.87	4.19		
Lansing	78	41		165	240		2.20	3.30	4.91	6.47		
South Central	83	37	2	170	229	177	1.39	3.11	4.38	5.45	3.37	2.92
Detroit	84	41		221	261		1.27	1.91	3.56	5.01		
Flint	80	40		183	267		1.30	3.06	4.51	5.34		
Romeo	69	38		175	210		0.33	1.36	1.98	2.11		
Tipton	80	32		201	232		0.82	1.08	2.70	4.45		
Toledo, OH	70	37		222	245		1.01	1.14	3.29	4.77		
Southeast	85	32	4	194	240	163	0.99	1.88	3.45	4.55	3.38	2.85

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.